

Jim Zlogar, Jr.

For Three Brave Men

To Jim Wright
You read to me from Emerson...
that the world whips the nonconformists
and yet, still you walked among the trees.
I see now, that was brave.

And to Kevin Hickey
Who taught me among other things,
the difference between job and Job:
another act of courage.

And to Bryan Foli, who was humble enough to say sorry.

Thank you.	

Creatorist
Theology Statement of Faith, Version 1.0
© Jim Zlogar Jr., 2021



Alignment Publishing

www.alignmentpublishing.wordpress.com www.alignment.life

Permission is granted to electronically reproduce with attribution. For example, "This text is reprinted from *Creatorist*, Version 1.0. ©Jim Zlogar Jr."

Other books by Jim Zlogar Jr.:
Alabaster Collection: Volume 1
Four Faces
seed
Trinity: In His Own Words

Contents

```
the faith
    Summarized
    Life Goals
    Law 1—Survival: Continuity: Growth
    Law 2—Attraction: Connection: Love
    Law 3—Role: Function: Purpose
    Law 4—Renewal: Rhythm: Recircling
    Problem
    Solution
    Creatorist Creed
    Prayer and Suggested Liturgy
    Practical Ways to be a Creatorist
the frequently asked questions
the further topics
    Evil
    Freedom
    Personal Property & Ownership
    Money
    Politics & Voting
the fine print
the 31 grievances
the foundation
the final bits
    10 Commandments Compared
    Jesus' Commands Compared
    <u>Infographic</u>
```

I THINK, I FEEL, I OBSERVE, I EXIST.

THEREFORE I AM A CREATORIST

Theology: The science of seeking God. **Science**: A method of discovering knowledge from observable, measurable and systematic principles, rather than from intuition or natural ability.

Creatorist Theology:

A method to seek knowledge of Father Creator based on observing creation—rather than only on intuition or special revelation.

John Wesley developed certain *methods*for living out his faith. That is why today we know it as Methodist.

similarly...

I call myself a Creatorist because of the Creator.

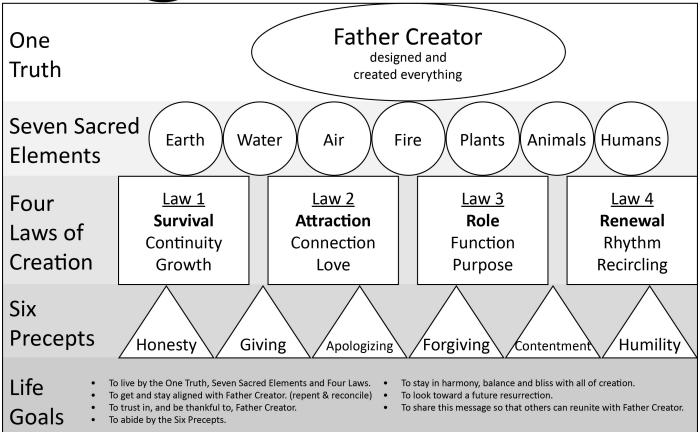
Step into the forest

Stroll on the shore

Stand on a mountain

...and find your Father there.

Creatorist



the faith

The **Creatorist** Faith

(acknowledge)

One Truth:

Father Creator designed and created everything

(revere)

Seven Sacred Elements:

Earth, Water, Air, Fire, Plants, Animals, Humans

(recognize)

Four Laws of Creation:

- 1. Survival: Continuity: Growth
- 2. Attraction: Connection: Love
 - 3. Role: Function: Purpose
- 4. Renewal: Rhythm: Recircling

Six Precepts:

HONESTY: We keep our words and promises. We do not lie to anything or to anyone in creation. We also do not endure others who lie. We are honest with ourselves, with others and with Father Creator. In all things, we are true.

GIVING: We give and we share. We do not steal, or take without permission, from anything or from anyone in creation.

APOLOGIZING: We say sorry and ask forgiveness, when hurting anyone or anything in creation, as well as when we are wrong about anything or anyone in creation.

FORGIVING: We forgive others when they say sorry.

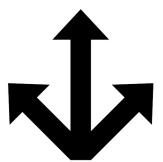
ACCEPTING: We are content with our place, role and possessions in humanity and within creation. We reject envy and greed as it relates to all of creation.

HUMILITY: We reject pride in all forms, in all of creation.

LIFE GOALS

- To live by the One Truth, Seven Sacred Elements and Four Laws.
- To get and stay aligned with Father Creator. (repent & reconcile)
- To trust in, and be thankful to, Father Creator.
- To abide by the Six Precepts.
- To stay in harmony, balance and bliss with all of creation.
- To look toward a future resurrection.
- To share this message so that others can reunite with Father Creator.

Law 1



Survival

Continuity Growth

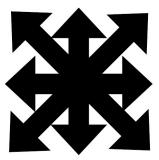
Law 2



Attraction

Connection Love

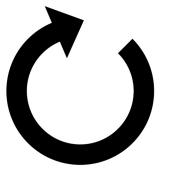
Law 3



Role

Function Purpose

Law 4



Renewal

Rhythm Recircling

$_{\mathsf{Law}}\,\mathbf{1}$

Survival: Continuity: Growth

istence. Father Creator has given all creation the instincts of always trying to survive and to grow. We consider that Earth (soil), Water, Air, Fire, Plants (and trees), Animals, and Humans are all alive, and all have the right to continued existence and unimpinged growth. Even the universe seems to be growing/expanding. We must not put constraints upon, or try to limit the survival, or stop the growth.

We celebrate this law by acknowledging our Father Creator and his gift of life to creation. We also recognize creation's efforts to survive by holding as sacred our tendencies and activities as shown in the detailed list below. Here we remember some of the many traits we have in common with all other humans and with many animals; and in

varying degrees, even some with plants, trees, fire, air, water and earth. All of us in creation are trying to survive and grow, and in this respect, we can see that humans are no different than the rest. This instinct to survive and grow is at the core of what it means to be created. We must recognize this instinct, allow it, and encourage it. For by doing so, we also acknowledge Father Creator. It is the purest act of worship.

As a Creatorist, at times we find inspiration from the rest of creation, and at times, we are called to be a model. As we help everything else to survive and grow, we also show all of creation how we do that. We start this, like everything else, by recognizing Father Creator.

By keeping this law, we strive to live

in harmony with creation, recognizing and allowing all of our collective efforts to survive and grow.

Human Needs

At a minimum, humans need water, food, shelter and warmth. Humans are able to survive by directly engaging and depending on other humans in three main ways: Giving, Trading and Taking. See this chart.

Below are some common activities we do as we survive and grow. We share these with all other humans, some animals, and in varying degrees, even with some plants, trees, fire, air, water and soil:

Breathing

Awakening (opposite of sleeping)

Growing

Sensing (seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, touch)

Sleeping, resting

Drinking

Eating

Seeking shelter

Seeking warmth
Defecating
Giving
Taking
Trading

Crying, Laughing,
Feeling emotions, Expressing emotions, Thinking, Loving, Communicating, Speaking, Respecting, Honoring our heritage, Belonging, Playing, Washing, Protecting, Hurting, Healing, Forgiving, Establishing territory, Acting clannish, Achieving, Believing, Trying to reproduce, Birthing, Nurturing, Working, Planting, Cultivating, Harvesting, Writing, Drawing, Teaching

As we recall these common tendencies, we humbly place ourselves among all else, with just as much right to survive as other people, animals, plants, trees, fire, air, water and the earth around us.

NOTE: This law is not to be confused with the idea of "survival of the fittest." Rather, this law is about allowing and encouraging the survival of all living beings, and trying, if possible, never to terminate the life of anything else.

Law $\mathbf{2}$

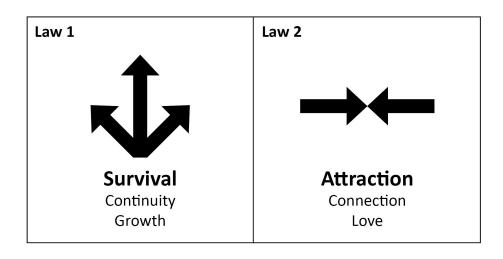
Attraction: Connection: Love

second law is Attraction, ∍he which is the law of the universe. In creation, we see attraction in the forms of gathering, grouping, love, mating and reproduction. We also see it expressed in gravity, electromagnetism, and in the weak and strong nuclear forces among molecules and atoms. We could say that the law of Attraction reflects how all things in creation stay together. It keeps our feet on the ground, as well as the planets and all galaxies moving and in balance. It keeps the waves moving, which cleans and replenishes. It also sets the exact distance from the earth to the sun, which requires precision to sustain all life on planet earth. This law holds the cells of our bodies together and unites beings in the creation of new generations.

Laws 1 and 2 go together like two dance partners. In the first, we have growth, continuity and expansion. And in the second, we have attraction and connection. Working together, these two seem to hold everything in a state of equilibrium.

To recognize and celebrate Law 2, we live out these steps:

• We recognize our Father the Creator and allow ourselves to return to him like the pull of gravity. Jesus came to show us that the Creator is our Father; and Jesus also came to show us the way back to Father. To do this, we must turn away from our rebellious ways and be spiritually born again. We repent and reconcile with Father Creator.



- We trust Father Creator.
- We are thankful to Father Creator.
- We honor and love Father Creator.
- We strive to love Father's creation:
 Earth, Water, Air, Fire, Plants, Animals, Humans.

We model this by focusing on love, on relationships and on attraction. Therefore, to the best of our ability, we live nicely with other humans, animals, plants, fire, air, water and earth; always trying to be an example of how it is possible to live in peace and harmony.

By keeping this law, it is like we stay in orbit with Father Creator and with creation.

Human Needs

At a minimum, humans need love, respect, emotional safety and relational intimacy. See <u>this chart</u>. These dynamics are primarily experienced through the five love languages which are: Acts of Service, Touch, Words of Affirmation, Quality Time and Gifts. (For more details, see *The Five Love Languages* book by Gary Chapman.)

Law ${f 3}$

Role: Function: Purpose

his law of Role is that of all living beings. It shows us that we each have a specific part and function that we carry out. For example, plants have a role in making the air that humans breathe. And ants have a role of cleaning much of the ground. For our purposes, we will focus on the roles that humans have, not only in creation, but also within humanity. To that end, this law is about how we conduct ourselves on a daily basis. It refers to the way we interact with all of creation, and specifically with other humans. It guides how we trade, and it includes our work. It starts with the Six Precepts and then explains some role-related needs and the means by which we achieve them. We can say that together these represent the HOW and the WHY of what we do.

We model this law as we abide by the

Six Precepts, as well as by showing respect for the various needs and means of achieving them.

Six Precepts

(HOW we do what we do)

1. HONESTY

We keep our words and promises. We do not lie to anything or to anyone in creation. We also do not endure others who lie. We are honest with ourselves, with others and with Father Creator. In all things, we are true.

2. GIVING

We give and we share. We do not steal, or take without permission, from anything or from anyone in creation. We also do not take life from anywhere in creation without good reason.

3. APOLOGIZING

We say sorry and ask forgiveness when hurting anyone or anything in

creation, as well as when we are wrong about anything or anyone in creation.

4. FORGIVING

We forgive others when they say sorry.

5. ACCEPTING

We are content with our place, role and possessions in humanity and within creation. We reject envy and greed as it relates to all of creation.

6. HUMILITY

We reject pride in all forms, in all of creation.

Human Needs

(WHY we do what we do)

We humans each have role-related needs which can be grouped into at least four areas as shown in the chart below.

Stimulation & Impact (30%)
Security & Belonging (45%)
Identity, Self-actualization & Romance (15%)

Knowledge & Achievement (10%)

Needs: (% of humanity)

Each person has each of these needs, but in a preferred order. The percentage shows the amount of people who have this as a primary preference.

Similarly, we can also chart the primary ways that people seek to meet these needs.

Achieved By: (% of humanity)

Leading & Controlling Others (15%)

Influencing Others (15%)

Live & Let Live (60%)

Making Rules & Boundaries (10%)

The four needs and the four means of achieving them comprise the WHY of what we do. They are all acceptable as long as they honor Father Creator, hold to the Four Laws, recognize the Seven Sacred Elements, and abide by the Six Precepts. We respect all types and always strive to live in harmony with others who may be different per these two charts.

By keeping this law, we affirm our place within humanity, and how we interact with others. It is also a standard for what humanity allows and accepts, as a social whole.

Law 4

Renewal: Rhythm: Recircling

refers to the way that all creation is always rhythmically recirculating. We see this in many ways including: (1) plate tectonics, (2) the water cycle; (3) the seasonality of plants and trees; (4) entropy, (5) cyclical forest fires and storms; (6) the way air and blood flow within humans and animals; and (7) birth, life and death for animal and humans. It is also closely connected to the daily rest and sleep cycles of living beings.

One way we abide by this law is by recognizing seasons, times and eras. In our years of life, we strive to always flow with creation. We also take one day per week, for rest.

Jesus taught us that there is a coming resurrection. In this revelation, we also

see a type of renewal and recircling.

Each night, when we lay down, by sleeping, we are reminded of the coming life after death. Just as we are still alive when we sleep now, so will we still exist even after we die.

By keeping this law, we affirm that rest, sleep and death are all natural parts of life. We also believe that there is some form of life after death. With that in mind, we live our lives accountable, and in reverence to this reality.

Human Needs

Humans need to be awake, to sleep, to rest, to die and after death, to rise. These take place in the cycles of day, night, birth and death.

HUMAN NEEDS and CREATORIST LAWS

– a replacement for Maslow's Pyramid –

	CONCEPTION/BIRTH				
<u>Stage 1</u> Survival	Water	Food	by	Giving	Fair Trade
Continuity Growth	Shelter	Warmth	υy	Taking	Unfair Trade
Stage 2 Attraction	Love	Respect	·	Gifts	Service
Connection	Emotional Safety	Relational Intimacy	by	Time Wo	Touch
Stage 3 Role	Stimulation & Impact	Security & Belonging	+	Lead & 15% Control Others	Influence Others
Function Purpose	Identity, Self- Actualization & Romance	Knowledge & Achievement	by	Make Rules & Boundaries	Live & Let Live
Stage 4 Renewal	Awake	Rest	by	Day	Birth
Rhythm Recircling	Sleep	Resurrec- tion		Night	Death
	DEATH/RESURRECTION				

PROBLEM: Rebellion

Most people have rebelled against Father Creator in one, or in all of these ways:

- 1. By not recognizing Father Creator as the source and creator of everything.
- 2. By not holding sacred, the Seven created elements: earth, water, air, fire, plants, animals, humans.
- 3. By breaking the law of Survival/Continuity/Growth: In our efforts to survive, we have not depended on Father Creator. We also have not helped other created elements to survive. And in some cases, we have prevented other created elements from surviving, or even directly ended their survival.
- 4. By breaking the law of Attraction/Connection/Love: We have not loved or honored Father Creator, nor the rest of his creation. We have also not returned to Father Creator.
- 5. By breaking the law of Role/Function/Purpose: In doing what we do, we have not sought to honor Father Creator, nor the rest of creation. We have not lived in balance with humans, animals, plants, fire, air, water, and earth.
- 6. By breaking the law of Renewal/Rhythm/Recircling: We have not lived our lives in light of eternity.
- 7. By breaking the Six Precepts: by lying (to others, self or to Father Creator), by taking instead of giving, by not apologizing, by not forgiving, by being envious or greedy, and by not being humble.

SOLUTION: Repentance and Reconciliation

We repent of (turn away from) these wrong ways, and choose instead to reconcile with Father Creator, and to live in alignment with his world. When we do this, we believe that Father Creator forgives us. Repentance should be sincere and holistic. Meaning, when done properly, it is like we are born again. We celebrate this, for it is like we get to start over, free from the errors of the past. We can be new again. When we do this, Father Creator somehow connects his Spirit with ours, to help us to continue to stay in alignment with Him. Even so, we continue to repent each day, or whenever we see ourselves in rebellion with Father Creator and with creation.

LIFE GOALS

- To live by the One Truth, Seven Sacred Elements and Four Laws.
- To get and stay aligned with Father Creator. (repent & reconcile)
- To trust in, and be thankful to, Father Creator.
- To abide by the Six Precepts.
- To stay in harmony, balance and bliss with all of creation.
- To look toward a future resurrection.
- To share this message so that others can reunite with Father Creator.

The Creatorist Creed

I believe in an invisible Father Creator who has designed and made all that is seen and unseen.

I hold sacred, the Seven Created Elements: earth, water, air, fire, plants, animals, humans.

I believe in the Four laws of: Survival, Attraction, Role and Renewal.

- I affirm the right of all creation to survive, to continue and to grow.
- I recognize the power of attraction, of connection, and of love.
- I submit to my role, function and purpose in creation.
- I observe and respect the action of renewal, rhythm and recircling.

I believe that Jesus Christ came to show us how to be reconciled to Father Creator.

I believe we can be forgiven of our rebellion.

I believe Father Creator gives us his Spirit.

I believe that Jesus rose from the dead, to show that we also will rise.

I believe that Jesus is seated at the right hand of Father Creator.

I pledge to abide by the Six Precepts:

- I will not lie: to others, to myself or to Father Creator.
- I will give and not take.
- I will apologize.
- I will forgive.
- I will not be envious or greedy.
- I will be humble.

I believe we can trust in, and be thankful to Father Creator.

I believe we can stay in harmony, balance and bliss with all of creation.

PRAYER

Our Father, you are in heaven. Holy is your name.

May your kingdom come and your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today, our daily food,

And forgive us our rebellion,

As we forgive those who harm and hurt us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Suggested Liturgy

Song: To Consecrate the Evening

Assembling the Elements (earth, water, air, plants, animals, humans) Lighting the Flame (fire) Our Father Prayer

Affirmation of Four Laws Forgiveness and Cleansing Reciting the Six Precepts Forgiveness and Cleansing

Creatorist Creed Reciting Life Goals

Testimony and Sharing

Song: To Awaken the Day

Optional:

Eating Together: Remembering Jesus

Practical Ways to be a Creatorist

- Repent of rebellion to Father Creator. That is, be spiritually born again.
- Continue to regularly repent, and strive to live a life of humble repentance.
- Be thankful to Father Creator for what you have, each day.
- Trust in Father Creator to care for you.
- when you see a spider or a bug, do not instantly try to kill it: Father Creator made that bug, and has called it to love him and to try to survive. As best as you can, try to help that animal fulfill its purpose. Expand this thinking to all other animals, and then to all plants and trees. Finally, recognize that all other humans, fire, air, water and even the earth, are trying to survive just like you and me. If you do need to kill something, speak to it before you do (if possible). Affirm it's life, and explain to it why you must terminate. Then give it a proper burial out of respect for this small part of Creation, and for Father Creator.
- If you see a fly or mosquito trapped in a window, let it go free. Jesus said he came to set the captives free. We can give freedom to humans, animals, plants and trees, and even in some ways, fire, air, water and earth. Learn to see beauty in the non-human parts of creation.
- Practice the Six precepts by: never lying, giving instead of taking, saying sorry, forgiving, being content, and being humble.
- Live in ways that glorify Father Creator.
- Do not hunt animals for entertainment (killing for pleasure).
- Consider growing your own food.

- Consider your diet to ensure it is in alignment with the Creatorist faith. Many will adopt a vegetarian or vegan diet because that allows the most survival. Meaning, animals don't have to die for humans to eat. Still, plants, vegetables and fruits have to end their survival in order that we may live. But we honor the Creator by showing reverence to the plants which "died" so that we might live. Learn as much as possible from Hallelujah Acres (www.myhdiet.com).
- Related to the last point, as you prepare your meals, speak to your food, or at least do in your mind. For example, as you wash a carrot, thank it by telling it that you honor its existence and are thankful for sacrificially ending its survival in order to provide nutrition for you.
- Find ways to explore other roles you might have on this planet. For example, do not only focus on your primary means of trade (ie: a job), but cultivate hobbies that also reflect your unique role among humanity.
- Consider creative ways to recirculate whatever you need to dispose of.
- When dealing with death, of course first grieve (5 stages: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance); but after that, revere death as part of the rhythm of life. Ponder the coming resurrection.
- To see the creativity of Father Creator, visit www.creation.com (young earth) and www.reasons.org (progressive creation/old earth).
- And other unique ways you can think to live out the One Main truth, Seven Elements, Four Laws and Six Precepts.

the frequently

asked

questions

Where do we humans come from?

We are created beings in a created world. We recognize the spiritual Father of Jesus as our Father Creator.

Why are we here?

To live as created beings and then to die. To honor, love and respect Father Creator first, and then, his creation. To also celebrate the Four Laws, the Seven Sacred Created Elements, and the Six Precepts. We live lives in light of eternity.

What happens after we die?

After we live, we die. Our physical bodies decompose. We suspect that our souls (or spirits) may immediately live on, but regarding specific timing, we don't know for certain. Jesus died and rose in order to show that there is a resurrection for us all. That could be immediate or in the future. Some say there is also coming a final judgement, and that there is a "heaven" and a "hell" for those who do, or do not, pass the judgement. Some contend that heaven and hell are instant, and do not require waiting for a final fu-

ture judgement day: It is up to the Creatorist to personally decide about these things. Some Creatorists believe that Father will be the judge, and others believe that Jesus will be the judge. We do not know for certain.

Are people good or bad?

All people are born with an ability to both rebel against Father Creator, as well as to be reconciled with him. Therefore, at a basic level, we could group people into the "reconciled," and the "rebellion." But it is safe to say that every human is eventually in need of repentance and reconciliation with Father Creator.

How should we then live?

As best as we are able, in reconciled harmony with Father Creator and then with his creation. We also strive to be true to our redeemed human natures in our specific activities. Jesus told us who the Father is, and how to be reconciled to him. We do this by repenting and returning to Father Creator; that is, by being spiritually born again.

We need to repent from the ways we rebel, namely:

- 1. By not recognizing Father Creator as the source and creator of everything.
- 2. By not holding sacred, the Seven created elements: earth, water, air, fire, plants, animals, humans.
- 3. By breaking the law of Survival/Continuity/Growth: In our efforts to survive, we have not depended on Father Creator. We also have not helped other created elements to survive. And in some cases, we have prevented other created elements from surviving, or even directly ended their survival.
- 4. By breaking the law of Attraction/Connection/Love: We have not loved or honored Father Creator, nor the rest of his creation. We have also not returned to Father Creator.
- 5. By breaking the law of Role/Function/Purpose: In doing what we do, we have not sought to honor Father Creator, nor the rest of creation. We have

not lived in balance with humans, animals, plants, fire, air, water, and earth.

- 6. By breaking the law of Renewal/Rhythm/Recircling: We have not lived our lives in light of eternity.
- 7. By breaking one or more of the Six Precepts: by lying (to others, self or to Father Creator), by taking instead of giving, by not apologizing, by not forgiving, by being envious or greedy, and by not being humble.

What is the basis for the answers to the above questions?

Starting with the idea that all that is here, is created. Then by observing creation; that is, what some refer to as "nature." This leads to the four laws of (1) Survival, (2) Attraction, (3) Role, and (4) Renewal; as well as to the seven sacred elements: (1) Earth, (2) Water, (3) Air, (4) Fire, (5) Plants, (6) Animals and (7) Humans. The special revelation of Jesus gives us the basis for the ideas of repentance, resurrection and of the Six Precepts: honesty, giving instead of taking, apologizing,

forgiving, not being greedy, and being humble.

Where is Jesus Christ in the Creatorist faith?

Jesus came to show us the way to the Father, and how to be reconciled to Father Creator. Based on the Gospel texts, he referred to his Father nearly twice as much as he did about himself. It is his Father, the Creator, whom we honor and love, just as Jesus commanded us. Some Creatorists believe that Jesus is the same as the Father, and others, no. Either way is up to the choice of the Creatorist believer. Some Creatorists believe that Jesus is the promised Jewish Messiah, and others, no. Either way is up to the choice of the believer. After Jesus died, he rose in order to prove that there is a future resurrection for all people. For Creatorists who claim that Jesus is God, they must simply be comfortable using "Jesus" and "Father Creator" synonymously. Creatorists are free to refer to Jesus as "Lord."

So the purpose of Jesus on earth was

this: To show us Father Creator, to show us how to be reunited to Father Creator, and to show us that we will all rise after death.

What about the Bible?

The Bible is revered by Creatorists, who nonetheless recognize that many people have many different interpretations. Faithful Creatorists consider the Bible to be the best source for knowing how Father Creator has historically interacted with humans.

What about the Planets and Stars?

Creatorists believe that Father Creator made everything, including all galaxies, planets, and solar systems. The seven sacred elements are: Earth, Water, Air, Fire, Plants, Animals and Humans. For the purposes of this theology, all other planets and stars could be labeled as "Earth" or "Fire." So, as an example, Jupiter would be part of the "Earth" element, and the Sun, part of the "Fire" element. Any gases in outer space would also be recognized as part of the "Air" element.

Why are the Seven Sacred Elements not scientifically fundamental?

We now know that what we can see is made up of much that we cannot see with our eyes: atoms, molecules, protons, leptons, quarks, DNA, etc. And in the future, we may learn much more. However, whatever our knowledge, it does not preclude us from embracing a theology that is just as feasible to those with modern-day technology, as to those who lived thousands of years ago. The Creatorist faith also recogchemically-fundamental nizes ments, but chooses to highlight those that people can naturally see (Earth, Water, Air, Fire, Plants, Animals and Humans). And this is practical as well, as it is much easier to lend assistance to the survival of a horse, for example, than to that of an unseen electron.

Is Creatorist the same as Unitarian Universalist?

No. The universalists apparently do not specify that the Creator is Father. In addition, they do not require repentance and being born again. Finally, another difference is while some

Creatorists are unitarian, some are also trinitarian.

Is Creatorist a New Religion?

Probably not. It is possible that it could be referred to by others as "Creatorist Christianity." So perhaps it is better described as a new Christian denomination. Some just speak of it just as "Creatorist," since it may be that some Christians would not consider this theology to actually be orthodox Christian.

Is being a Creatorist the same as being a Christian?

The Creatorist faith actually seems larger than Christianity, if we want to sketch circles on a chalkboard. All born-again Christians would automatically be Creatorists, as long as they recognize the need to repent and be reconciled to the Father of Jesus. But not all Creatorists are Christians. Just like King David, Solomon, Isaiah, and Jeremiah were not Christians...as well as many others from "Before Christ" history, like them.

Speaking of the Old Testament, let's ask some important questions:

- 1. Did King David sin?
- 2. Was King David confronted with his sin?
- 3. Did King David confess his sin?
- 4. Did King David repent of his sin?
- 5. Was King David forgiven of his sin?
- 6. Is King David in heaven?

If we answer yes to all of these questions, we have to remember that King David lived 1,000 years before the car-Joshua, from Bethlehem, penter whom we today call Jesus. So if King David was able to repent, be forgiven and be reconciled to his God; he did so without knowledge of Jesus. That does not mean that everyone should be forgiven without Jesus. But it does mean, for example, that Jews alive today can be forgiven of their sins, directly from Father Creator, even if they reject Jesus as the promised Jewish Messiah.

Now some might protest and ask about the verse that says, "No one comes to the Father but by me." Let's remember that Jesus was a master of

metaphor, and he might have been speaking metaphorically here. On the other hand, when he said, "by me," he also might simply have meant that people needed to accept his teaching about his Father, and that they needed to be born-again. It did not necessarily mean people needed to pray to Jesus and ask forgiveness, in Jesus name. There was no Christian faith when Jesus walked the earth, and no concept of "being a Christian either." Jesus was teaching reform for Judaism. (As a somewhat related example, the original disciples did not end their prayers "in Jesus' name." That does not mean that we can't; only that we don't have to.)

What about the Trinity and Unity? Let's take a few minutes to address this topic.

Jesus was born as a human being. Was Mary a virgin? Some say yes, and others no. We don't know for sure, but it probably doesn't matter. Was Mary sinless? We don't know for sure, but it probably doesn't matter, as long as we

are humble enough to acknowledge that we don't really know.

Jesus lived until the approximate age of 33, when he was executed by the state. Did he live a sinless life? Some say yes, and others no. We don't know for sure, but it probably doesn't matter, as long as we are humble enough to acknowledge that we don't really know.

Jesus came to show us the Father Creator and how to be reconciled to Father Creator. Is Jesus the same as Father Creator? We don't know factually and we can't know. But it probably doesn't matter, as long as we are humble enough to acknowledge that we don't really know. Creatorists today can be either trinitarian or unitarian: it does not matter for this faith. That means Creatorists can either accept that Jesus is God, or they can reject that idea. So if some Creatorists want to speak of Jesus as "Lord," and "God," synonymously, they are free to do so.

Jesus was sometimes called "Lord" in

Christians like to call Jesus "Lord." Is that the same as "God?" The original title "Lord," did not imply divinity, but it was more like the way that Catholics say "Bishop," or "Father." But Creatorists today can be either trinitarian or unitarian: it does not matter. That means Creatorists can either accept that Jesus is God, or they can reject that idea. We unite around Father Creator as the primary object of our devotion. If some Creatorists want to speak of Jesus as "Lord," and "God," synonymously, they are free to do so.

Jesus rose from the dead to prove that we will also all rise. He now sits in heaven, next to Father Creator. Is Jesus the Jewish Messiah? Some say yes and others no. We don't know for sure, but it probably doesn't matter, as long as we are humble enough to acknowledge that we don't really know.

Many modern-day Protestant Christians pray to both "Father God," and to "Jesus," in the same prayer. Jesus taught us specifically how to pray: To "Our Father." And Jesus himself prayed to "Father." Therefore, can Jesus answer prayer in the same way as Father? We don't know and we can't know. But it probably doesn't matter. If we also want to pray "to Jesus," we should know that we may actually be praying "to Father Creator," even if we want to use the label "Jesus." Of course, this depends on one's view of the deity of Jesus. Perhaps some people may prefer to pray "to Jesus," because it makes it easier to relate to another human being, as opposed to an unseen Father? On a related point, Creatorists do not need to affirm the

deity of Jesus, but can if they want to.

Jesus came to show us how to reunite
with Father Creator, and to show us
the resurrection.

Some modern-day Catholics pray to Mary. Is Mary able to answer prayer? We don't know, but it probably doesn't matter. If you are a Creatorist, and praying to Mary, just know, you may actually be praying to Father Creator, even if you use the label "Mary." Perhaps some people are more comfortable praying to "Mary," as opposed to "Father," particularly if they had painful relationships with males?

the further

topics

<u>Evil</u>

Freedom

Personal Property & Ownership

Money

Politics & Voting

the further topics:

Evil

feel the need to address the reality of evil, because I know that Creatorist theology might sound very idealistic. For example, earlier I suggested not killing animals. But what about a poisonous snake inside your home? Or for something even more common, what if you find yourself wondering at times if you work or even live with a "bad" person? No, none of us exist in a fantasy world. Therefore, we all have to deal with the notion of evil.

Let's start by trying to define things. "Evil" is just a reference to "bad;" so I am going to begin by talking about "good and bad." All created beings must have a definition for good and bad, and so humans must too. Father

Creator has given us some clues as to good and bad: For example, roses smell nice and apples taste good; while feces smells bad. But for most of us, when we start out, we associate "good" with ourselves, and "bad" as anything that is not us. As we grow, that definition of "bad" grows to mean that which is different from us. And if we fully mature, we may realize that WE must no longer be the standard of good and bad, but rather we have find guidance in some measurement outside of ourselves. All societies need a measure of right and wrong, and for the vast majority of human history, religion has provided that independent criteria. As an example, in the Judeo/Christian legacy, Moses taught

the 10 commandments to the people (actually there were 623).

Creatorist Theology is no different and makes the claim to introduce a creed to guide humans as it relates to good and bad, right and wrong. To that extent, "bad" could be said to be the opposite of the Creatorist worldview. So, as an example look at the Six Precepts and see how this applies:

Creatorist (Good)	Opposite (Bad)
Honesty	Lying & Dishonesty
Giving	Taking & Theft
Apologizing	Not saying sorry
Forgiving	Not forgiving
Accepting	Greed
Humility	Pride & Arrogance

Beyond this, we can also look at all of what is means to be Creatorist, to help to define evil. (This next part comes from the <u>Problem: Rebellion</u> section of this book.)

Therefore, Evil is...

- 1. Not recognizing Father Creator as the source and creator of everything. Another way of saying this is Rebellion against Father Creator.
- 2. Not holding sacred, the Seven created elements: earth, water, air, fire, plants, animals, humans.
- 3. Breaking the law of Survival/Continuity/Growth: Firstly, in our efforts to survive, we have not depended on Father Creator. We also have not helped other created elements to survive. And in some cases, we have prevented other created elements from surviving, or even directly ended their survival.
- 4. Breaking the law of Attraction/Connection/Love: We have not loved or honored Father Creator, nor the rest of his creation. We have also not returned to Father Creator.
- 5. Breaking the law of Role/Function/Purpose: In doing what we do, we have not sought to honor Father Creator, nor the rest of creation. We have not lived in balance with humans, animals, plants, fire, air, water, and earth.
- 6. Breaking the law of Renewal/Rhythm/Recircling: We have not lived our lives in light of eternity.
- 7. Breaking the Six Precepts: by lying (to others, self or to Father Crea-

tor), by taking instead of giving, by not apologizing, by not forgiving, by being envious or greedy, and by being proud or arrogant.

Now that we have defined evil, what do we do about it?

This of course is a much more complicated topic since we know that most people do not adhere to Creatorist Theology. Nevertheless, here are ways to handle the reality of evil in the world around us:

- 1. Teach Creatorist theology to others, and to especially to children.
- 2. Gather, group and live with others who are like-minded.
- 3. Organize more formally as faith communities. Adopt accountability measures for "members."
- 4. Try to live in places where Creatorist principles are already present in the culture.
- 5. If large segments of society eventually accept these teachings, then perhaps Creatorists will be able to help, guide and influence society.
- 6. The way to deal with persistent evil is to remove it. Therefore, Creator-

ists try to separate themselves from evil as much as possible. For example, in the case of a faith community, someone who refuses to repent, may be asked to leave at some point. Regarding the laws of a region or of a nation, such laws are distinctly different from any accountability measures within Creatorist communities.

Now that we know what evil is, and some ideas about what we can do about it, we have to ask one more question:

Why does evil exist?

The short answer is that all of creation has freedom. Humans are free to rebel against Father Creator, or to reconcile with him. But the same goes for the rest of creation...like oceans, fire and trees. Everything is free to choose. For example, we can be honest or we can deceive. We can build up or we can destroy. It is up to us to decide. That freedom means that some can make a right choice (reconciliation with Father Creator) and some can make a wrong

choice (rebellion). Therefore, the best we can hope for is to try to share the Creatorist worldview with all humans, animals, plants, trees, water, soil, fire and air.

Case Study: Giving and Taking

Precept #2 is Giving. So giving is good, and the opposite—taking—is bad. Let's take a moment to explore this subject in a bit more detail.

All humans have just three actions that we do with each other: We give, we trade and we take. For the most part, we *give* to those we love, and we **trade** with those whom we consider to be neutral. For example, if you run a bed and breakfast business in your home, you would not likely charge your mother when she comes to visit...you will instead give her a bed because you love her. You might also extend this same benefit to your close friends. But for just about everyone else, you will trade them a bed for money. This is an example of how we equate giving with loving, and trading for the rest.

However, besides those you love, and those you feel neutral towards, there are still those you expressly do not like. For these people, we usually try ignore them—except in cases where a person is deemed harmful, and then we have a third (and less common) action: We take from them. To illustrate: Society might take someone's freedom, with prison; or we someone's reputation could take through gossip; and on a personal level, we might take our love from a person via a divorce. So all human activity is reducible to: Give, Trade and Take.

Give	Trade	Take
To those	With those who	From those
we love	are neutral	we hate

Instinctively, we also each know that giving is good, and taking is bad. Trading is generally good, but only if it is honest and mutually beneficial. So, a "good trade" could also be called "mutual giving." Both parties give and benefit from the trade. But in cases where a trade is not beneficial to both sides, then most likely one party will feel that the other has "taken" advantage.

That is, a "bad trade" is one where someone has "taken." And so we come back to the idea that *taking* is bad, and *giving* is good. In that sense, we could reduce all human action—even trading—to giving and taking.*

who are mostly like-minded. By doing so, we may find the world a more enjoyable place. I would contend that faith communities sometimes have the potential to fill this particular gap.

So, as Creatorists, we aspire to always give and never to take. This is why Precept #2 is Giving. And when we trade, we want it to be "mutual giving;" which is honest and beneficial to both sides. Then lastly, we only resort to taking in defensive situations that put ourselves or loved ones at severe risk.

Tribalism

Realistically, there are some non-Creatorists who have no interest in a lifestyle of giving. And so as we strive to be faithful Creatorists, we might find others, who at times, take advantage of us. Even then our response and posture is still to try to give. But if this becomes problematic, in order to be healthy, we could consider a form of tribalism, where we intentionally attempt to live in pockets with others

*Karl Marx reportedly tried to reduce all human activity to down trading; even acts of love. Meaning, he said that people only give something if they think they will get something in return...even, for example, when a mother gives love to a child. In contrast to Mr. Marx, Creatorist theology takes the opposite approach by trying to reduce all human activity down to giving and taking; even acts of trade. Meaning, we believe that people are also capable of selfless giving, not just giving for the sake of getting something in return. Even so, Karl Marx's conclusions might be understandable in light of the fact that he started with the assumption that there is no Creator. But as Creatorists, we understand that as Father Creator has freely given us life and blessings, we can also learn how to be those who give freely.

the further topics:

Freedom

he first problem with freedom is that some people do not equally consider the six other sacred elements of creation, which have just as much a right to freedom as humans. Father Creator made freedom and designated it for all of the Seven Sacred Elements. For example, animals should be free, just as humans. Therefore, humans are not automatically free to build zoos and place any and all animals in captivity. Rather, zoos should ideally only exist as hospitals and elder care for those kinds of animals. Similarly, humans should not think of themselves as owners of animals or plants or even of land (see the later topic of Personal Property & Ownership). We can also extend that same

thinking about freedom to fire, air, and water. We are all free beings and entities, sharing the planet together with freedom for all and for everything.

The second problem with freedom is that some elevate it higher than the Four Laws. All of the created elements are totally free; as long as that freedom does not impinge on the survival, attraction, role and renewal of all of the rest of creation. For example, people are not free to make others into slaves, or in any way to control them, as that unreasonably affects their ability to survive. As another example, humans are also not free to unreasonably pollute water or air, which may affect the survival of those elements.

The third problem is that many do not understand that freedom has limits, as set by Father Creator. Based on simple observation, we see that bees and mosquitoes are free to roam and fly wherever they want to. Waves are free to traverse oceans. Wind is free to blow. But there is never unlimited freedom. For example, fire is not granted "freedom" by Father Creator to destroy all forests on the planet. And water is not "free" to cover all the dry land. The earth is not free to change its shape, nor to move closer to the sun. Bees are not free to stop making honey and mosquitoes are not free to cease laying eggs. So we see that there are, and have to be, limits...limits on freedom.

Therefore, a safe way to discuss and contemplate freedom is to remember that, despite the importance of freedom, it is *not* the highest ideal. Rather, the Four Laws are: Survival, Attraction, Role, and Renewal. Freedom, or any other human aspiration, only comes after the first four are realized. If we do strive for freedom, it should start

with freedom for all (all seven elements), to survive, connect, have purpose and be renewed. Finally, we must remember that there are limits on freedom, and we can deduce those limits by seeing ourselves as part of this planetary ecosystem, in harmony with the other sacred elements, all submitted to Father Creator.

Similarly, Creatorists must be careful to discern spiritual freedoms. This is important, since there are some verses in the Bible which relate to freedom. For example:

- It was for freedom that Christ set us free.
- He whom the Son sets free, is free indeed.
- Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

When reading the above, some might conclude that humans (apart from the rest of creation) have extra, divinely-granted freedoms. However, we can see from this larger discussion, that that is not the case.

Legal Freedoms

Finally, if a geopolitical nation grants citizens certain freedoms, for example, the "right" to cut down trees on personal property, a e person might erroneously interpret that such a freedom

is a God-given right. But actually, such a legal posture does not mean that Creatorists are automatically free to do so. And that is because cutting down a tree directly, and obviously, threatens the survival of the tree.

the further topics:

Personal Property & Ownership

The problem with personal property is that it assumes that humans can own the earth. Based on Creatorist theology, humans can't own the earth, any more than the earth can own humans. Rather, Creatorists see themselves as submitted to Father Creator, who is technically the owner. That means humans are stewards instead. It might sound like semantics, but it can dramatically affect the way we interact with the Seven Sacred Elements.

Sproperty" is the foundation rock of any working economy. That might be true, particularly from an economic perspective. But for Creatorists, we take a very different religious

approach. Even within Christianity, God did not give Adam and Eve the garden to own as their possession. They were caretakers and stewards. They did not own the trees nor the animals there; nor the ground, water or air. Christians might assume that there was no concept of personal property in the garden of Eden. Creatorists adhere to a similar path. That does not mean Creatorists can't own personal property legally. Only that they know the difference between the legal/economic reality, and the spiritual one. For example, they may "own" land by law, but they do not consider it their possession. They see themselves as stewards, not owners, because the land—the soil—is a living created entity, just like us. Creatorists never take dominion over anything or anyone. Father Creator is the one who could be said to own all property.

Similarly, Creatorists don't technically own animals, plants, trees, etc. We may be stewards over land, and even over animals; but not *owners*. And that means that a family dog, cat or horse is never to be treated badly and is not to be considered "property." Similarly, pets should be seen as having the right to live out the same Four Main Laws of Survival, Attraction, Role and Renewal.

As stated in the last section, we can't use society's word "freedom" (often interpreted as *freedom for humans*) as the measure of what is, and what is

not acceptable, especially regarding land and property. Rather, it is to the Creatorist faith, and specifically, to the Four Laws that we primarily adhere. That is, it is to Survival, Attraction, Role and Renewal that we are first loyal. And we extend those rights and freedoms to animals, plants, fire, water, earth and to air. Finally, we must recognize that any "freedoms" we may personally feel entitled to, should always be derived from these same Four Laws. That is to say, even if our nation grants certain additional freedoms, Father Creator does not. Finally, if our nation legally grants us ownership rights over land, and anything therein, we instead take the posture of stewardship, and we use the Four Laws to guide us.

the further topics:

Money

to facilitate the survival of fellow humans, and for the rest of creation. Creatorists do not hoard money, but rather share it, especially when it will help others to survive and grow. We also never lie about money, we never steal money and we are never greedy about money.

Creatorists also recognize three truths about money: (1) Humans made money to facilitate trade; and trade is necessary for survival (Law #1), (2) Money corrupts, and has often been used to abuse and defile fellow humans and the rest of creation, and (3) The rest of creation (animals, plants, etc.) do not use money nor anything like it. For ex-

ample, ocean water does not "trade money" with glaciers or with the sand on the beach. The earth does not "charge rent to" (or trade money with) trees that wish to grow in it. Fire does not require money from humans before it will provide warmth. Of course, there are many symbiotic dynamics in the non-human parts of creation, where there are many mutual benefits. But in such "transactions," there is nothing like money involved. Remember. Father Creator did not make money, nor does he use it or need it. Because of these realities, and because Creatorists also reject greed and envy, we naturally take a very different perspective regarding money.

Rulers and Money

Naturally, human rulers get involved with money, since it is so fundamental to human survival. And when they think about money, they have historically tried to use certain systems to regulate it. These systems are, in general, capitalism, socialism, and communism...or some combination of the three. In capitalism, individuals are generally free to engage in trade without oversight. In communism, the state or government basically decides what kinds of trade people may participate in. And in socialism, we see many different varieties and expressions somewhere in between capitalism and communism.

But for Creatorists, we always have to remember: None of these systems will save us, nor are they worthy of the same devotion that we show to Father Creator.

We are free to consider economics, or even to practice it. But we should always know that capitalism is not the answer. Nor is socialism the answer. And neither is communism. The reason is because sooner or later, people corrupt whatever economic system is in place. (Law #4)

For Creatorists, we do not place hope in money or in systems of money to save us. Rather, our hope is in Father Creator and in his creation. We start by becoming faithful Creatorists as we repent and are born again. We then use money in ways that reflect our commitments to the Four Laws and to the Six Precepts. For example, we seek the survival of others; we give; we trade fairly; we are honest; we reject greed; we do not hoard; we are humble. We then try to model and share this Creatorist approach to money, with others.

the further topics:

Politics & Voting

The main problem with politics is that people place their hope in humans, rather than in Father Creator.

have multiple leaders and methods of balancing, as in parliaments, congresses and the like.

Politics generally refers to how people organize themselves into civilized society. And politicians are those who typically attempt to lead or rule such organizations. Historically, the world saw the use of kings, but not so much today. Kings were essentially dictators, which meant that their rule was individual, absolute and non-protestable. Nowadays, most leaders claim some sort of rule-by-election, which means that the masses think they have at least a voice in who is politically in charge. And most organized nations

Statistically about 15% of the population has an urge to rule and control others. We know this from the D-Dominant quadrant on the DiSC test. Another 15% want to influence others, and a full 60% are content to live without the use of lots of rules and regulayou-mind-your-own-busitions—a ness-and-I-will-mind-mine, kind mentality. Finally, the C corner (Compliant), is the remaining 10%. So if we add the D (15%) and the C (10%), we get only 25%. This number represents the portion of society that sees the social environment as generally unfavorable, and therefore, is in need of strong rules, laws, boundaries and rulers. This point is important as it shows us that not many people (only 25%) are innately convinced of the need for heavy-handed organized social rulership (ie: politics). And somewhat ironically, those who desire such control actually feel this way mainly from self-preservation and fear.

There is a story from the Old Testament that gives us a classic reminder of how some people think. The ancient Hebrews had no king, but only judges. And as the story goes, the people begged for a king, so that they could be like all the other nations. Why would a group of ancient people want a king? For protection, safety and security, of course. Maybe just like a smaller unit—a family—would want a father.

The problem with politics is that politicians distract us from the Creator. We tend to look to them, instead of to Father Creator. And as the Hebrew story continued, when the judges and

prophets heard the people asking for king, they relayed the message to Yahweh. And somehow Yahweh told them that they didn't need a king, because if they got one, the individual people would stop relying on Yahweh for safety, guidance and protection. Essentially, the king would lead society, yes; but the king would also indirectly rob the people of their dependent relationship with their deity (as well as potentially robbing the people through taxation, but that's another subject).

So where does our confidence lie? Where is our hope? Where do we depend? How do we anticipate the future? Each human is a created being, and has the capacity to do good or to do evil, and sometimes both. But Father Creator is always good. So if we trust in kings, prime ministers, and presidents, we are eventually likely to be disappointed and distraught. But if we trust in Father Creator, we are able to find real peace and harmony, even if we see tumultuous times all around us. We must not get distracted from focusing on Father Creator.

Voting

On a related topic, even when Creatorists do not place their hope in human politics, they may still have the chance to vote. Then the question becomes: Should we vote?

Voting is allowed for Creatorists, but is discouraged. This is because voting has the troubling temptation of making people place their faith and hope in politics, instead of in Father Creator.

Plus, voting tends to cause unnecessary division among Creatorists by forcing people to choose ideas and sides that have generally been decided and named by non-Creatorists. No, instead of voting, it is better to try to convince as many people, as possible, of the Creatorist message. By doing that, over time, righteous leaders will naturally arise from the pool of the growing faithful.

the fine print

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Further details about Creatorist theology are shown on the following pages. Some topics have numbers in parenthesis (for example "(5)") which refer to the list of 31 grievances—which are shown at the end of this section, for reference, as well as in *The Foundation* section.

Abortion (20,22): Creatorists do not practice abortion as it is disrespectful to Father Creator, and generally not seen in the animal kingdom.

Addiction: Creatorists accept the idea that humans can form habits that can become difficult and sometimes seem impossible to break. Such addictions most likely require repentance, humility, honesty and seeking help from others.

Alcohol: Alcohol is allowed for Creatorists, but discouraged. Creatorists must strive to be free from drunkenness. All non-prescription drugs are forbidden.

Baptism (9): Baptism is an outer sign of inner repentance. Baptism is not required. People are free to be baptized in water or without water, if they choose to be baptized at all. People are free to baptize their small children, although that is discouraged. Rather it is better to dedicate infants, but then let children be baptized when they are old enough to understand that baptism is an act of repentance. That age of decision depends on the child.

Believer: A term for those who have

repented and continue to live in alignment with Father Creator. Sometimes referred to as a faithful Creatorist.

Bible (13): Faithful Creatorists consider the Bible to be the best source for knowing how Father Creator has historically interacted with humans.

Born-Again (9): Jesus said that we must be born again. Creatorists recognize the need to repent, and be reconciled to Father Creator. The first time we repent of our non-Creatorist ways, it is like we are born-again. We are given Father Creator's Spirit as well.

Church: Church is a term that traditionally refers to gatherings of Christians. Creatorists are not required to attend church, but are free to do so. Creatorist is a belief system, so how people choose to implement it is up to them. However, there is a suggested liturgy that can be used for those who choose to gather together, or even for individuals.

Clergy (9,17): Creatorist is a faith system, not necessarily a denomination or organization. But it could become that for some. If Creatorists want to gather, and then more formally organ-

ize, they are free to do so. However, it is suggested that they refrain from authoritarian rule, and from establishing a special "clergy class." Also, leaders should not be referred to as "Father," as this is directly disrespectful to Father Creator. It is highly discouraged to use similar phrases, like "Pastor, Prophet, Teacher," or anything that could slowly infringe upon the glory of Father Creator.

Communion: Communion is a ritual in Christian churches for the purpose of remembering Jesus. Creatorists are not required to participate in this ritual, although they are free to do so. Communion can be celebrated by any believer, at any time, with any food. It is not about the food; rather it is about the remembering. Creatorists reject consubstantiation and transubstantiation.

Creation of the World (1,2,3,25): Creatorists believe in Father Creator, who created the world. How that happened is a matter of opinion and interpretation. With that in mind, the inception of creation could be anywhere from 10,000 years ago, to 14 billion years

ago (or more, or less). We simply do not know for certain, despite many strong opinions. Creatorists reject Darwinism and Evolution. Creatorists embrace the subject of creation science. Any dating system used by Creatorists should start with the assumption that all is from Father Creator.

Creeds: Creatorists use the Creatorist Creed. The primary Prayer is the "Our Father."

Death: We live, and then we die. Our physical bodies decompose. We think our souls (or spirits) may live on, but we don't really know for sure. Jesus died and rose in order to show that there is a future resurrection for us all. Some Creatorists say there is also coming a final judgement, and that there is a "heaven" and a "hell" for those who do, or do not, pass the judgement. Some contend heaven and hell are instant, and do not require waiting for a final future judgement day: It is up to the believer to decide. Some Creatorists believe that Father will be the judge, and others believe that Jesus will be the judge. We do not know for certain.

Deism (14): Deism refers to the idea that the Creator created the world certain laws, but then has with stepped away in order to let it run on it's own. The metaphor is like the clock maker, who wound up the clock and put it down and let it run. This theology is predicated on the idea that the Creator does not generally interfere (or get involved) in an ongoing way with creation. Some Creatorists also adhere to Deism and they could be called Creatorist Deists. Other Creatorists allow for a more involved Creator, and they could be called Creatorist Christians, or Creatorist Jews, for example.

Diet (2): Creatorists do not follow one particular diet. However, believers are encouraged to treat the body as one of the Seven Sacred Elements of creation, and therefore should try to eat and drink as healthily as possible. Many Creatorists adopt a plant-based diet in order to be reminded of creation on a daily basis; and to strive to respect all life on earth.

Dominion Theology (5): Dominion Theology is not practiced by Creator-

ists, since it places faith in human leadership, rather than in Father Creator. It is also in conflict with the First Law: Survival, by trying to control and take dominion over creation, instead of living at peace and harmony with it.

Drugs: Creatorists are not to use entertainment drugs, and are not to be drunk with alcohol. This is because such can create mind-altering experiences, which may lead to breaking the Four Laws and the Six Precepts. In short, because we are created, we must never lose our ability to function as rational and accountable beings.

Equality: All humans are created equal by Father Creator. Humans treat the Seven Sacred Elements with respectful equality as well (Earth, Water, Air, Fire, Plants, Animals, Humans).

Evil (21): See Evil in the The Further Topics section. The One Main Truth, Seven Sacred Elements, Four Laws, and Six Precepts are used as a basic standard for determining good and evil. For example, here are some examples of evil: controlling others, adversely affecting the survival of others, lying, stealing, not saying sorry, greed,

not repenting, not honoring Father Creator, etc. The reason that evil exists in the world is because a certain group of people do not adhere to these sacred truths. If all of humanity were ever to embrace this Creatorist, and live by it, then evil would be nearly nonexistent. That would not mean that some people would not still do evil things—they would—but the majority would repent just as we daily repent. The sad reality is that since people always are free to choose, evil will never go away completely, but can only be minimized.

Freedom (4): See Freedom in the The Further Topics section. In summary, the Four Laws always take precedence over any laws of freedom.

Gender (22): Birth gender is immutable. Males have penises and females do not. Creatorists do not attempt to change gender, as we do not see a similar action in the rest of creation. To try to change gender is also disrespectful to Father Creator, by not recognizing his original design.

Healing: As Father Creator's Spirit exists in creation, sometimes people are

spiritually, emotionally, mentally and even physically healed. Some people are also able to heal others in this fashion (ie. Healers). As Creatorists come into alignment with Father Creator by being born again and repenting, lives are transformed, and different types of healings may happen.

Heaven and Hell: Creatorists recognize a future resurrection. Beyond this, it is up to the believer to decide what other details they might want to embrace. But what shall be agreed, is that we remain humble, since we can't know for certain. We shall respect other opinions among Creatorists, and we shall not try to force our opinions on others. Some believers affirm that the Bible teaches a literal heaven and hell. On these subjects, the words of Jesus give insight into what we can expect regarding life after death.

Holidays: Creatorists recognize that holidays are mostly a throwback to "holy days," whereby the Church would draw attention to certain days to teach people something, to celebrate or to rest. Secular governments have also used them to give people a

rest from work. Therefore, Creatorists do not abide by any holidays as a part of faith. However, there is freedom to participate if desired. For example, the circle of the seasons has historically been used to mark days, particularly the solstice days. Creatorists are free to recognize and honor these days as well.

Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit (or just "Spirit"), is Father Creator's manifestation in physical dimensions. Some believers believe that the Holy Spirit is a part of the Trinity, and others reject this. Similarly, some refer to the Holy Spirit as "he" and others as "it." In both cases, it is up to the conviction of the believer to determine. The Father can give the Spirit directly, and it may be possible for some Creatorists to do this too. The Holy Spirit is sometimes transferred by the laying on of hands. The Spirit gives gifts to believers, which are described in the Bible.

Homosexuality (22): Love between humans is always honored per Law 2: Attraction. However, anal intercourse is forbidden, and that action is to be repented of. This is for two reasons: 1.

We do not see anal sex in creation in the animal kingdom. 2. Also, because Father Creator did not design the anus to be used for human intercourse, but as part of the human digestive system. (The walls of the anus are very thin, contrasted with the walls of the vagina, a fact which reflects design intention.) By extension, all same-gender relationships must not be sexual. Creatorists also do not display the homosexuality rainbow symbol, since doing so indirectly advocates anal sex or same gender sexual relationships. Having said that, Creatorists celebrate loving non-sexual friendships, just as was seen with David and Jonathan, Peter and James, and any two close samegender friends.

Idolatry: People are prone to worship what they can see, and generally do not want to worship what they can't see. Because of that, idolatry is a major concern. To that end, Creatorists are encouraged not to allow anything or anyone to take the identity or share the glory of the Father Creator. Along with that, Creatorists shall not call any person "Father," as in the form of a ti-

tle. It is highly discouraged to use similar phrases, like "Pastor, Prophet, Teacher," or anything that could slowly infringe upon the glory of Father Creator.

Jeremiah 29 (16): One of the most famous verses in the Bible is Jeremiah 29:11. It states: For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Many people who call themselves Christians use this verse as a form of encouragement, or more. In fact, some may create an entire theology from this one sentence. However, this sentence was written by Jeremiah, as part of a letter specifically to the Hebrew exiles in Babylon, around 586 BC. Therefore, it is a nice sentiment, but it can't be used today to assume a personal message from Father Creator to every person on the planet. And it is not the core of Creatorist theology. Does Father Creator love his creation? Yes. Does he desire that all should be reconciled to himself? Yes. But does he promise a good future to everyone and to all of creation? No. Not necessarily. Creatorists must learn to love and trust Father Creator, regardless of what happens. See also *Plan of God* below.

Jesus Christ (12,19): Jesus came to show us the way to the Father. It is his Father, the Creator, whom we honor and love, just as Jesus commanded us. Some Creatorists believe that Jesus is the same as the Father, and others, no. Either way is up to the choice of the believer. Some Creatorists believe that Jesus is the promised Jewish Messiah, and others, no. Either way is up to the choice of the believer. Jesus died and rose in order to prove that there is a future resurrection for us all. For Creatorists who claim that Jesus is God, they must simply use "Jesus" and "Father Creator" synonymously.

Judgement (10): Jesus taught that there is a resurrection, just as he rose from the dead. Some say there is also coming a final judgement, and that there is a "heaven" and a "hell" for those who do, or do not, pass the judgement. Some contend heaven and hell are instant, and do not require waiting for a final future judgement day. It is up to the believer to decide.

Some Creatorists believe that Father will be the judge, and others believe that Jesus will be the judge. We do not know for certain.

Marriage (22): Creatorist Marriage is between a biological man and a biological woman. The main purposes of Creatorist Marriage are: (1) relationship and (2) mating and fruitful production of offspring. For those Creatorists who do not marry, there is sexual celibacy. Celibates are encouraged to engage in close relationships, as long as they are not same-gender-sexual. Celibacy is recognized as a valued and celebrated life path, as it was the one chosen by Jesus, John the Baptist and many other noteworthy people from history. However, not many are able to sustain the celibate lifestyle and they should marry. In the animal kingdom, some animals mate for life and others no. We can assume the same to be true among humans, despite the Creatorist ideals. However, almost all sexual activity among animals is for the purpose of procreation (reproduction). That is something for humans to consider and emulate. Repentance is always suggested and encouraged.

Miracles: Sometimes good things happen which seem impossible or unexplainable. Historically, the Christian Church has used the term "miracle" to describe these kinds of events (when they are good) as well as times that Father Creator has maybe more dramatically intervened in creation. Creatorists are free to choose their own interpretation.

Money: See Money, in the The Further Topics section. In summary, money should be used primarily to facilitate the survival of fellow humans, and for the rest of creation. Creatorists do not hoard money, but rather share it, especially when it will help others to survive. We also never lie about money, we never steal money and we are never greedy about money.

Other Faith Systems and Religions (8,23,28,29,30,31): It is possible for people from any religion, or none at all, to become Creatorist. It is not required to become Jewish or Christian first.

Paul the Apostle (13): Paul is credited with writing large parts of the New

Testament, and that is because he wrote many letters from prison. However, Paul was a man, and is not to be confused with Father Creator. Nor can Paul write "The Word of God," any more than the Pope can speak with God's actual voice. "Apostle" means messenger, and Paul certainly spread the message of Christianity during his life. However some people argue that Paul was not one of the original Apostles, and point to possible conflict with Peter, James and John. There is even some evidence that seems to indicate that Paul may have been considered a false teacher by at least Peter and James. Creatorists are free to decide.

Personal Property: See Personal Property, in the The Further Topics section. In summary, Creatorists consider themselves to primarily be stewards of earth, not owners of it.

Physics: Creatorists consider both theology and science to be the same search for truth. Therefore, as long as Father Creator is acknowledged as the source, physics is compatible with Creatorist Theology. What some have termed the "four fundamental forces of physics," are best reflected in Creatorist Law 2: Attraction/Connection/Love. And if creation science ever discovers a "Theory of Everything," it may well be that it is Father Creator who may hold all things together.

Plan of God (15): In the 20th Century, there was a famous booklet published called The Four Spiritual Laws, by Bill Bright. (Not to be confused with the Creatorist Four Laws contained herein.) Anyway, in Bill's booklet, he stated that "God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life." Therefore, many people took that to mean that God had a specific path that they needed to follow; and if they did, life would be wonderful. But life does not always work out that way. And there is not a specific "plan" for every person. Therefore, Creatorists should rely on the Creatorist theology, and trust in Father Creator regardless of what happens. See also Jeremiah 29 above.

Politics (6): See Politics, in the The Further Topics section. In summary, the problem with politics is that people place their hope in humans, rather than in Father Creator.

Prayer: Prayer is one way that humans can interact with Father Creator. Prayer can be verbal or non-verbal. The primary prayer is the "Our Father."

Predestination (7,10): Predestination refers to whether some people are predestined to pass or fail a future judgement. Creation does not give us any clues about predestination. But since it is in the future for all living humans, believers are free to choose their particular preference, or none at all.

Premilliennialism and Postmilliennialism (11): This Christian topic refers to the second coming of Jesus. "Pre-" refers to the idea that Jesus will return before the Millennium, and "Post-" means afterwards. The Millennium is the idea of a future 1,000 year reign of Jesus as actual King of the earth. Practically, "Pre-" theology can lead to laziness, because it assumes that the world is going to get really, really bad (and has to) before Jesus will come back. And "Post-" can lead to busyness and burnout since it teaches that Christians have to create an ideal, perfect world before, and in order for Jesus to return. Both "Pre-" and "Post-" are to be rejected by Creatorists since they place too much emphasis on a future event which may or may not even happen. Rather, Creatorists abide by the Four Laws of Survival, Attraction, Role and Renewal. See also Revelation and Second Coming below.

Prostitution (22): Creatorists reject prostitution as a viable form of entertainment, sexuality or trade. This includes virtual prostitution, for example, as in pornography.

Prophecy (17): Some people have an uncanny ability to predict the future. Jews and some Christians have historically called such people "prophets." Others have termed them as "clairvoyants, mediums," etc. Creatorists are free to decide themselves about such people. However, the use of the term "prophet" is highly discouraged as it has the tendency to slowly impinge on, and distract from the glory of Father Creator. Plus, the ability to predict the future is not needed as Creatorists have the Four Laws to guide them. (To be safe, anyone who claims to be prophetic, but has ever once made an incorrect public prediction, should not be consulted.)

Resurrection (12): After Jesus died, he rose in order to prove that there is a resurrection for us all. For us, that could happen immediately after death, or at a later time.

Revivalist Christianity (18): The word "revival" has various interpretations, but in essence it means a point in time when a localized group of people generally get more serious about their Christian faith. People repenting is something that Father Creator values. However, "Revivalist Christianity" is the idea that Christians should always be looking forward to, and praying for, the next revival—or even a great revival at the end of the age. "Revivalist Christianity" is not beneficial, is a distraction, and is to be rejected by Creatorists. This is because Law #4 (Renewal and Rhythm) addresses the topic of revivals in a more balanced way. Historically, we can see that social revivals happen periodically, usually without human invention. Therefore, Creatorists accept, and are thankful for revivals, but they do not make them a life

purpose or goal. And regarding a "last, great revival," there is little historical evidence that such an event will ever happen; only creeds and interpretation of biblical verses. Every generation has believed themselves to be "the last one," and they have all been proven wrong. Therefore, the world is more likely to continue on the same path, and Creatorists are better served to assume continuity and recircling (Laws 2 and 4), instead of a soon coming "end of the world."

Revelation (11,13): The book of Revelation is currently the last book of most Bibles. It is said to record revelations of Jesus to John, and was most likely written in about the year 95. There are four main schools of interpretation of Revelation. And there is also the theory that it should not even be part of the Bible (a position that Martin Luther took). Creatorists are free to interpret Revelation any way they choose, or to consider it too far open to interpretation to even be included in the Bible. Revelation can sometimes be used to try to predict the future, and to support the idea of

return of Jesus. For those who choose to believe in a return of Jesus, there are two events that are often used to reference this event: the Tribulation and the Millennium. And there are various estimations and interpretations about each. For example, there are Pre-tribulation, Mid-tribulation and Post-tribulation ideologies. These refer to the timing of Jesus' return: whether it is before, during or after a seven-year period in which Christians are said to be persecuted. Creatorists are free to abide by any of these three, or none at all if they choose to reject the idea of the return of Jesus. See also Premilliennialism and Postmilliennialism above, and Second Coming below.

Sabbath: Christians, Jews and Muslims all recognize a weekly day of rest. Muslims use Friday, Jews use Saturday, and Christians mostly use Sunday. Creatorists are not required to recognize a particular day of the week for a Sabbath day, but are highly encouraged to spend one day each week in rest.

Salvation: Salvation refers to being saved from a punitive judgement, both

in this life and in the life to come. That is why Paul wrote that, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved." Jesus said, "You must be born again." For Creatorists, we could say that salvation first happens when we repent. Jesus also said that, "You shall know a tree by its fruit." Therefore, salvation is also ongoing, and is evident in one's daily life. Some people believe it is possible to lose one's salvation, and others not. It is up to the believer to form their own convictions.

Sanctification: This Christian term refers to the long-term inner transformative growth that takes place after one is born-again. For Creatorists, it could be described as the process of learning to live daily in alignment with Father Creator and creation.

Satan: The Bible speaks of a spiritual being—an Accuser, whose work is to accuse humanity, to Father Creator. We can assume he also accuses all of creation. Jesus came to bring healing, freedom, forgiveness and restoration. That is, Jesus came so that people (and

all the rest of creation) do not need to stand condemned by any accusations of the Accuser. The Bible also refers to a Satan who seems to lead a spiritual rebellion against Father Creator. Creatorists repent of rebellion, and therefore, also reject the Accuser, Satan, the Devil, etc. Some Creatorists believe in a literal Satan and some in a figurative Satan. Either way, Creatorists must admit that each person still has the power to choose to rebel against, or reconcile with, Father Creator. The Bible says that the work of Satan is to kill, steal and destroy. If this is true, this is in direct opposition to Law #1 (Survival), as well as Precept #2: Give.

Second Coming (11): Jesus may return to earth, in bodily form, as the Bible seems to imply. If that happens, we do not know when; but it might take place in Jerusalem. On the other hand, Jesus may never be back to earth in bodily form. It is up to the believer to decide what they choose to believe. Either belief is acceptable for Creatorists. However, Law #1 is Survival, Growth and Continuity, which means that Creatorists are best served by us-

ing the past as an indicator of the future. Jesus has never returned in the last 2,000 years and every generation thought that they were the one in which he would appear. Therefore, the next 2,000 years may likely be similar to the last 2,000 years. See also *Premilliennialism and Postmilliennialism* and *Revelation* above.

Sexuality (22): Human sexuality is based on biological mating protocol. Males and females engage in sexuality primarily for the purpose of procreation. However, sexual activity is generally an expression of marital intimacy. Human sexuality for believers is expressed in either fruitfulness or faithfulness...that is, either in (1) Creatorist Marriage between a biological man and a biological woman (ie. those willing to be fruitful) or (2) Celibacy (ie. faithfulness). (See Marriage above.) Sexual immorality (which is to be repented of), is sexual activity outside the bonds of a marriage between a biological woman and biological man.

Sin (21): Sin is a Christian term to describe any action that is deemed rebellious to Father Creator. Creatorists re-

pent of rebellion and therefore reject sin. Creatorists are free to use the term, "sin," or simply to speak about "good and evil." The Creatorist Statement of Faith is used as a basis for right and wrong. Beyond that, creation shall be observed and considered a model for understanding the Creator's intentions. In other cases, the words of Jesus can provide assistance.

Spirit Realm: There seems to be a spirit realm where spiritual beings operate. These beings are commonly referred to in the Bible as angels (messengers of God) and demons (in allegiance to Satan, another spirit being). Christians worship in spirit and in truth and therefore seem to at least partially operate in the spirit realm. Therefore, the words of Jesus provide Christians with instructions on how to interface with the spirit realm. Creatorists are free to decide what they believe regarding the spirit realm and what level they choose to be involved.

Sovereignty of Father Creator: Father Creator has final say in heaven, or wherever Father has his kingdom. However, he has given creation free

will. That means that the will of creation (the wills of humans, of animals, plants, fire, air, water and earth) can at times be different from Father's perfect will.

Tattoos: Tattoos are allowed, but discouraged. Creatorists believe that Father made each person and created element beautiful, without the need to try to improve that. We also do not want tattoos to diminish from the glory from the Father Creator.

Temptation: Creatorists believe that each person has the power to choose good or evil. This same freedom of choice is extended to every being and part of creation. That is, animals, plants, water, air, fire and even the earth, can also choose good or evil.

Television (27): It is highly unlikely that Father Creator watches television. Think about that for a minute. And then it would follow that Father Creator also does not keep up on "the news." Since neither screens nor news were part of the original creation, we can assume that they are not in heaven. Both TV and "the news" are inventions of humanity. Similarly, the animal

kingdom does not watch TV. Neither do fire, air, water or earth. That does not mean that Creatorists should automatically do likewise, but they are encouraged to seriously consider a screen-free lifestyle. TV might seem to be a form of communication, bringing humans closer together. However, in reality it is one-sided, and is not mutual. But even if it were, it is only for human-to-human connection. Since no other part of creation uses TV, it actually has the power to disconnect humans from the rest of creation. It also disconnects humans from Father Creator, since Father does not use TV to communicate, nor can it be used by humans to reach out to him. For the vast majority of human history, humans were able to survive and thrive without TV. Today, that idea could sound shocking; but it should not. At present, many people are simply addicted, and feel incapable of living without TV/screens. Therefore, as part of the goal to connect with creation, Creatorists are exhorted to give up television and any form of screen addition. Similarly, Creatorists should find

their reality in creation and in Father Creator, not in virtual manifestations.

Trinity (12,19): The Trinity is accepted by some Creatorists and rejected by others. It is up to the believer to select their preference. Similarly, the divinity of Christ is determined by the Creatorist's conviction and preference. It is not a condition of salvation to accept or reject either the Trinity or Christ's divinity. Believers shall respect each other, even when differences exist.

Vaccinations: Creatorists are free to accept or reject vaccinations. For those who reject them, they may plead religious objection, as based on their Creatorist faith.

(Virgin) Mary (9): Some Creatorists choose to show special veneration towards Mary, the mother of Jesus; others, no. Was Mary really a virgin when she gave birth to Jesus? We don't know and we can't prove it either way. From creation, we would say it is impossible; and therefore if it happened, it would have had to have been a miracle. (See *Miracles* above)

Voting (6): See Voting, in the The Further Topics section. In summary, Crea-

torists are free to vote, but are encouraged not to. This is because Father Creator's kingdom is not of this world, and never will be. Voting has the great temptation to cause people to put their faith and hope in humanity instead of in Father Creator. Voting also generally causes unnecessary division and conflict among Creatorists.

World Evangelization (7): There are many verses in the Bible that make Christianity sound very universal. Things like, "every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess," and "the knowledge of the glory of the Lord will cover the earth like water covers the sea." However, the truth is that Christianity is and has always been a minority religion. And if history is a predictor of the future, it will always be that way. Estimates are that 3-20% of the world population has a legitimate Christian faith. Even so, as much as 30% claim some sort of Christian association, but some say that most of them are Christian in name only (nominal). It is important to make this distinction since some Christian theologies seem to indicate that eventually the whole world will know about and/or even believe in Christianity. It is the view of the Creatorist that this is not likely to be the case. Christianity will very likely always be a minority faith. However, the Creatorist creed is designed to reach many more people with a very similar message. In fact, some would argue that the Creatorist message is the true message of Jesus (Joshua) in the first place.

List of 31 Grievances

Creatorist Theology was partially inspired by recognition of certain aspects of Christianity which the author found to be problematic.

Below is a list of these 31 items which summarize spiritual issues that have been identified. In fact, these may be in need of reform. Namely, that some creeds or belief systems need:

The 31 Grievances

- To integrate some modern creation science realities into Christianity. (<u>Creation of the World</u>)
- 2. To reconnect Christianity with creation. (Creation of the World, Diet)
- 3. To affirm the Creator as our Father. (Creation of the World)
- 4. To correct "liberty-based Christianity." (Freedom)
- 5. To correct Dominion Theology. (<u>Dominion Theology</u>)
- 6. To distance Christianity from human politics. (Politics, Voting)
- 7. To correct the fallacy of discipled nations. (<u>Predestination</u>, <u>World Evangelization</u>)
- 8. To correct some universal aspects of Evangelical Christian orthodoxy. (Other Faith Systems and Religions)
- 9. To correct some Roman influences on Christianity. (<u>Baptism</u>, <u>Born-Again</u>, <u>Clergy</u>, <u>Virgin Mary</u>)
- 10. To challenge both Calvinism and Arminianism. (<u>Judgement</u>, <u>Predestination</u>)
- 11. To correct Premilliennialism Theology. (<u>Premilliennialism and Postmilliennialism</u>, <u>Second Coming</u>, <u>Revelation</u>)
- 12. To correct "Jesus-centric Christianity." (Jesus Christ, Trinity)
- 13. To correct Bible-centric and Pauline Christianity. (<u>Bible</u>, <u>Paul the Apostle</u>, <u>Revelation</u>)
- 14. To correct the sovereignty of God within Christianity. (<u>Deism</u>, <u>Sovereignty</u> of <u>Father Creator</u>)
- 15. To correct the notion of "God's plan for your life." (Plan of God)
- 16. To correct the Jeremiah 29 phenomenon within Christianity. (Jeremiah 29)
- 17. To correct the notion of prophetic Christianity. (Clergy, Prophecy)
- 18. To correct the idea of revivalist Christianity (and soon-coming revivals).

(Revivalist Christianity)

- 19. To challenge some deity-idolatry issues within Christianity. (<u>Jesus Christ</u>, <u>Resurrection</u>, <u>Trinity</u>)
- 20. To correct some Liberal Christian teachings. (Abortion)
- 21. To address the problem of "fallen nature" within Christianity. (Evil, Sin)
- 22. To clarify some sexual confusions within Christianity. (<u>Abortion</u>, <u>Gender</u>, <u>Homosexuality</u>, <u>Marriage</u>, <u>Prostitution</u>, <u>Sexuality</u>)
- 23. To legitimately help Christianity to relate to a much larger percentage of the globe. (Other Faith Systems and Religions)
- 24. To recognize a changing Christianity; and a new age.
- 25. To challenge the Theory of Evolution within Christianity. (<u>Creation of the World</u>)
- 26. To correct some "Mother Nature" ideologies within Christianity.
- 27. To address "information addictions" within Christianity. (Television)
- 28. To account for faithful Jews who reject Jesus as Messiah. (Other Faith Systems and Religions)
- 29. To account for born-again Roman Catholics. (<u>Other Faith Systems and Religions</u>)
- 30. To account for faithful Creatorists who reject special revelation. (Other Faith Systems and Religions)
- 31. To make Christianity more appropriate for the 30% of SPs in the world. (Other Faith Systems and Religions)

Some items above refer to The Fine Print topics, in parenthesis (for example "(<u>Clergy</u>)").

the foundation

.S. Lewis had once said that had he **not** become a Christian, he would have chosen to be a Zoroastrian. I find that curious. One of the most reputed Christian theologians of the twentieth century, and yet he also evidently had a high regard for a faith system that most people in the West have never even heard of. Why? What was it that he found so appealing?

One day I decided to try to answer these questions, but I did not get very far in my research. After about an hour, I had this crazy thought:

Would it be possible to fully develop a Christian worldview, purely from observation of the nature that surrounds me? Meaning, if I was the only human on planet earth, could I look at the stars and at animals, and observe all of creation—and then turn around and write, on inspiration, the entire Bible as we know it today?

I had to admit: No. I would never have written the Old Testament if I had been isolated on a desert island. And

huge parts of today's Christian orthodoxy would also be missing from my opus. Why is that? Well, partly that is because the Bible is a book that was written by many people and over many years. It is also a compilation of the history of some humans interacting with Yahweh and with Jesus. And I knew that for me, I cannot experience that history except by reading about it. But *creation*...what could creation tell **me** directly?

I wondered this: What if I were to try to develop a faith system only from what I saw in nature? What might that look like? And here I was inspired, shall we say, by the Zoroastrians, who focused on earth, wind, fire and water. Ok. That's admirable, especially since Professor C.S. Lewis also took note. But instinctively, those four items seemed incomplete to me. I mean, what about the rest of creation?

Well, hold on; I actually did not start there. First of all: Is this "nature" or is it "creation?" Did it just happen, or was it designed and made? I had longago assumed a Creator, but was there anything scientific to substantiate such a position? In my elder years, I have since become convinced that there is, and here are the six main reasons for the conviction of a Creator: (1) the human eye, (2) carbon, (3) chlorophyll, (4) the galactic so-called "axis of evil," (5) the fine-tuned universe, and (6) the lack of intermediary species in the fossil record. This last point was the one that I believe Charles Darwin himself said could one day refute his own theory. However, he died before he had the chance to correct it; as it would take decades of archaeology to show if he was either right or wrong. But if we go by what we see today, and if Mr. Darwin were alive today, I suspect that he would conclude that his own theory of Evolution is false. Well, my point here is not to argue against Evolution, but to explain that I did not only assume a Creator because of my Christian past. Instead, it was from how I experience, understand and interpret creation around me.

As I said, I started with the idea of a

Creator. Then I thought that I would try to use Creator's creation as my primary source of information. What general themes and ideas become apparent to me by what I see and experience? Right from the start I tried to look beyond humanity, and instead, to all of life.

When I step back and observe creation this way, it doesn't mean that I also have to automatically reject special revelation (by "special revelation," I mean the well-known religions of the world, including Christianity). I just need to evaluate such revelation, in light of the creation I observe. And it seemed to me that some, or even large amounts, of special revelation could be correct, as long as it lines up (or at least doesn't directly conflict) with creation. But even here, we humans could interpret creation differently. In that, it is very much of a personal exercise. One's own opinions and beliefs are always going to play a large part. There is no way around that, and I'm okay with that. All I can do is share mine. Therefore, I know that I am impacted (biased?) by my Christian faith, but that is acceptable to me; it is part of my history.

So *Christ* ianity is a faith of course centered on Jesus. And one of Jesus' main messages is that we are to refer to, and consider, the Creator as *Father*. Fine. I don't see anything in creation that would directly argue against that. In fact, it's easy for many people to conceive of the idea of "Mother Nature," so why not "Father Creator?"

As far as the rest of my professed Christian orthodoxy, I wondered how to proceed. Should I try to evaluate every tenet of the faith to see if I could find a parallel in creation? That seemed a long and laborious task, so I opted to start somewhere else first: I started with some problems.

Reform or Starting Over?

After 20 years as a Roman Catholic, and then 30 more years as a Protestant Christian, I came to a point where it seemed clear that I needed to make some mental changes. The faith that I

claimed to adhere to, and that I had learned, seemed somewhat different from the life that I was living out, day by day. The variation was not overpowering, but enough that at times I felt wobbly. I have heard about others having similar experiences. Sometimes people call it a "crisis of faith." One friend said that, "the faith of [her] childhood did not work as an adult." I am convinced that many Christians eventually ask their own hard questions with at least a few kinds of outcomes. For example, these may lead to (1) Reaffirmation of the faith, and simply choosing to believe that one's creed is 100% accurate, (2) Deciding to press on, since it seems too late in life to change, but somehow attempting to live more content with uncertainty, (3) Revising the faith in one way or another, and (4) Abandoning the faith altogether.

I have been open to all options, but #3 (revision) seems the most attractive path. I reject #1 (a kind of denial) because I don't want to continue believing something solely because I once

chose to believe it. Rather, I want to believe something because it is true. Or at least, that it is true for me. Then #2 (momentum and a type of agnosticism) doesn't work for me because I am not so comfortable with uncertainty that I don't apply my brain, especially when given the chance to try to figure something, as if working out a math problem. And finally, I can't embrace #4 (atheism) because I have seen far too much positive life change to ever conclude that Christianity is totally false and worthy of abandonment. So what's left is revision, or a realignment, so to speak (#3).

So I made my "list of grievances." These are mostly theological items which I had been taught; and in some cases, which I also came to believe. Some I learned from the Catholics, but actually most are related to Protestantism. Regardless, now I see them for what they are: erroneous. I might call them metaphorical speed bumps or roadblocks, for my spiritual path. They were simply causing ongoing problems for my spiritual reality. For example,

and just for reference, I felt the need:

- To integrate some modern creation science realities into Christianity.
- 2. To reconnect Christianity with creation.
- 3. To affirm the Creator as our Father.
- 4. To correct "liberty-based Christianity."
- 5. To correct Dominion Theology.
- 6. To distance Christianity from human politics.
- 7. To correct the fallacy of discipled nations.
- 8. To correct some universal aspects of Evangelical Christian orthodoxy.
- 9. To correct some Roman influences on Christianity.
- 10. To challenge both Calvinism and Arminianism.
- 11. To correct Premilliennialism Theology.
- 12. To correct "Jesus-centric Christianity."
- 13. To correct Bible-centric and Pauline Christianity.

- 14. To correct the sovereignty of God within Christianity.
- 15. To correct the notion of "God's plan for your life."
- 16. To correct the Jeremiah 29 phenomenon within Christianity.
- 17. To correct the notion of prophetic Christianity.
- 18. To correct the idea of revivalist Christianity (and soon-coming revivals).
- 19. To challenge some deity-idolatry issues within Christianity.
- 20. To correct some Liberal Christian teachings.
- 21. To address the problem of "fallen nature" within Christianity.
- 22. To clarify some sexual confusions within Christianity.
- 23. To legitimately help Christianity to relate to a much larger percentage of the globe.
- 24. To recognize a changing Christianity; and a new age.
- 25. To challenge the Theory of Evolution within Christianity.
- 26. To correct some "Mother Nature" ideologies within Christianity.

- 27. To address "information addictions" within Christianity.
- 28. To account for faithful Jews who reject Jesus as Messiah.
- 29. To account for born-again Roman Catholics.
- 30. To account for faithful Creatorists who reject special revelation.
- 31. To make Christianity more appropriate for the 30% of SPs in the world.

(This list also appears in the Fine Print section.)

My point in sharing this list is not to debate each item. Beliefs can't be argued anyway. I share this only to say that I had a growing concern that with all of these inadequacies, my life was not accurately representing the faith that claims to intimately know Jesus' Father. I had to face this reality and decided to try to do something about it. (Please know that some of these 31 items are addressed further in *The Fine Print* section, and are cross-referenced there numerically in parenthesis.)

Reform

Martin Luther did not set out to start a new denomination, but to reform the Roman Catholics; I originally adopted the same posture. Luther had a list of 95; mine above is 31. He made his list and nailed it to the church door, as a means of delivery. He did that because he was powerless to change official church doctrine himself. I am also powerless to change Christian doctrine. So my list is just that: a list. And I deliver it as a PDF document and possibly as a book. (I know that others have made their own lists too.)

Anyway, over the course of a number of months as I pondered these 31 items above, my mind would periodically float to this new creation-based faith I had also started considering at about the same time. I began to wonder if that theology could simultaneously solve at least some of my list of grievances. Curious.

Eventually Luther realized that reform was not possible without some sort of separation from the Catholic Church.

And yet, at that time in his life, he seemed more concerned with staying alive, than with starting a whole new denomination within Christianity. In the end, his legacy seems to have become even more substantial than his life. Since he didn't give a name to his path, others did—in honor of him. That is why we today have the Lutheran Church, and Lutheranism. I say all that because on the off chance that my "list of grievances" and orthodoxy could have that kind of future and lasting impact, I would not wish it to be called by my last name. That is why, just in case, I have opted to name this right from the start: Creatorist.

The Same Destination

So you see, I came to conclude that, (1) the list of 31 problems I had identified above, along with, (2) my interest in finding inspiration directly from creation, both had the potential to lead me to the same destination: My own beliefs, instead of just someone else's. Then when I understood that all established religious beliefs are basically some form of tradition, I thought

to myself: What really is the harm in drafting my own tradition? Some might consider that heretical or at least arrogant, but after contemplating it a while, it might not seem so overwhelming. Why not just begin with creation and try to create a faith that works for me and see if it also has the potential to smooth out some of these religious speed bumps at the same time? And then perhaps I could share it with others on the off-chance that it could be encouraging.

Anyway, I've spent 40 years basing nearly all of my ideas of reality on some form of someone else's theological traditions. Now I am going to spend a little time trying to find my

own inspiration in the creation of the Creator.

All that to say that I decided to step into the forest, and look at the nature around me—no; to look at the creation around me—and see if I could find my Father there.

And this short book is the result of that search.

PS. Since I am living now in 2021, I am taking a cue from computer software and releasing this as **Version 1.0**. I want to leave the door open for updates, in case this grows and changes over time.

the final bits

Comparisons

10 Commandments (Exodus 20)	Creatorist	
1. Have no other gods	One Main Truth	
2. Do not create idols	the fine print: Idolatry	
3. Do not take the name of G-d in vain	NA	
4. Rest/Observe the Sabbath	Law #4: Renewal/Rhythm/Recircling	
5. Honor parents	Law #4: Renewal/Rhythm/Recircling	
6. Do not murder	Law #1: Survival/Continuity/Growth	
7. Do not commit adultery	Six Precepts: Contentment	
8. Do not steal	Six Precepts: Giving	
9. Do not bear false witness	Six Precepts: Keep (word/honesty)	
10. Do not covet	Six Precepts: Contentment	

Jesus' Commands	Creatorist
Great Commandment: Love God and Love People (Matt. 22:37-40)	One Main Truth, Laws #1 & #2
Great Commission: Go into all the world (Matt. 28:18-20)	Life Goals
Repent & Believe (Mark 1:15)	Law #2
Pray (Matt. 6:5-15)	"Our Father" Prayer
Give (Luke 6:38)	Six Precepts: Giving
Remember (Luke 22:17-20)	Suggested Liturgy

Creatorist

